WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of correcting the light amount of a printhead where plural light-emitting chips, in which plural light-emitting elements are formed in a row, are disposed in a row, the method comprising:

determining the beam profiles of the plural light-emitting elements including joints of the light-emitting chips;

determining the distance between the light-emitting elements at the joints of the light-emitting chips from the distance between peaks of the beam profiles;

comparing the determined distance between the light-emitting elements with the resolution pitch of the light-emitting printhead;

raising the light amount of the light-emitting elements of at least one side of the joints of the light-emitting chips when the determined distance between the light-emitting elements is longer than the resolution pitch; and

lowering the light amount of the light-emitting elements of at least one side of the joints of the light-emitting chips when the distance between the light-emitting chips is shorter than the resolution pitch.

2. A method of correcting the light amount of a printhead where plural light-emitting chips, in which plural light-emitting elements are formed in a row, are disposed in a row, the method comprising:

determining the beam profiles of the plural light-emitting elements including joints of the light-emitting chips;

slicing the beam profiles at a predetermined level and determining the distance between the light-emitting elements at the joints of the light-emitting chips from the distance between median points of the sliced plane;

comparing the determined distance between the light-emitting elements with the resolution pitch of the light-emitting printhead;

raising the light amount of the light-emitting elements of at least one side of the joints of the light-emitting chips when the determined distance between the light-emitting elements is longer than the resolution pitch; and

lowering the light amount of the light-emitting elements of at least one side of the joints of the light-emitting chips when the distance between the light-emitting chips is shorter than the resolution pitch.

3. The method of correcting the light amount of a printhead of claim 1, wherein when the determined distance between the light-emitting elements is represented as d2 (μm), the resolution pitch is represented as d1 (μm) and the change in the light amount of the light-emitting elements whose light amount is raised and lowered is represented as P (%), d2 − d1 = P.

4. A printing apparatus comprising:

a printhead that plural light-emitting chips, in which plural light-emitting elements are formed in a row, are disposed in a row; and

a driver for driving the plural light-emitting elements based upon image data, as the light amount of at least one of two light-emitting elements which are neighbor at the joint of the light-emitting chips to be different from the light amount of light-emitting elements which neighbor the two light-emitting elements.

5. A printhead comprising:

a light-emitting portion that plural light-emitting chips, in which plural light-emitting elements are formed in a row, are disposed in a row; and

a driver for driving the plural light-emitting elements based upon image data, as the light amount of at least one of two light-emitting elements which are neighbor at the joint of the light-emitting chips to be 5 different from the light amount of light-emitting elements which neighbor the two light-emitting elements.